

University of Toronto Faculty of Music

University Women's Chorus

Ann Cooper Gay, director



Monday, April 5, 1993

8 pm

Victoria College Chapel

PROGRAMME

O Holy Fire (World Premiere)	Bruce Nicol (b. 1958)
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Veni, Domine (Motet, Op. 39, no. 1)	Felix Mendelssohn (1809-1847)
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Dixit Dominus (Psalm 110) Allegro, e con spirito Largo - Allegro Largo sostenuto - Allegro	Baldassare Galuppi (1706-1785)
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INTERMISSION

White Feathers (from <i>Songs of the Lights</i> , Set II)	Imant Raminsh (b. 1943)
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Wind	Bernhard Heiden (b. 1947)
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Aure volanti (from <i>La Liberazione di Ruggiero dall' isola d'Alcina</i>)	Francesca Caccini (1587-ca. 1630)
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Velvet Shoes	Louise Murchison Evans
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In Springtime	Janet Stensaas
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Poor Man Lazrus	arr. Jester Hairston
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Dodeca Donne
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Bolyongás (Lonely Wanderer)	Béla Bartók (1881-1945)
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On suuri sun rantas autius (How lonely are your shores)	Matti Hyökki (b. 1946)
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Dodi Li	Nira Chen (arr. Doreen Rao)
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A ghaoth andeas! (O South Wind!)	arr. Errol Gay
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PROGRAMME NOTES AND TEXTS

O Holy Fire

Bruce Nicol

Hildegard von Bingen (1098-1179) was well known in her day throughout Europe. She was the founder of an Abbey, a writer, a mystic visionary, and an adviser to Popes and bishops. She was also a composer of some strikingly original plainchant, though she had no formal music training.

Some of Hildegard's chant has found its way into this piece. There is also an attempt to evoke the mood of medieval music through the choice of harmonies. The chorus sings in Latin, while the two soloists sing an embellished English translation of the chorus's Latin text. The translation is thereby "built in" to the piece.

O Holy Fire was written for Ann Cooper Gay and the University of Toronto Women's Chorus as part of the Faculty of Music's "Student Composer-in-Residence" program. Bruce Nicol is a graduate student in composition at the University of Toronto. [B. Nicol]

We welcome Bruce Nicol as conductor/composer for the premiere of his work.

Veni, Domine

Felix Mendelssohn

Lord, descend to us! Hear us! Oh, tarry no longer! Assuage all the suffering of thy people, and gather them, the scattered, unto thy dwellings. O Lord, employ for us thy gracious power; descend now, salvation bring down to us!

Dixit Dominus (Psalm 110)

Baldassare Galuppi

Galuppi was well-known throughout Europe as a composer of comic operas. *Dixit Dominus* is one of the more than twenty extant choral works written by Galuppi for the girls at the Conservatory of the *Ospedale degli Incurabili* in Venice. (He later reworked this piece for mixed choir, adding pairs of oboes and horns.) It is one of the few that does not contain extended movements for solo voices. The editor of the performing edition, David Larson, describes the formal structure: "The opening instrumental material, in light opera buffa style, recurs in each of the three movements, giving the entire work the form and spirit of a large rondo."

White Feathers

Imant Raminsh

Imant Raminsh was born in 1943 in Latvia, and came to Canada in 1948. He is a graduate of the University of Toronto, where he studied composition with Talivaldis Kenins, and choral techniques with Charles Peaker and Elmer Iseler. He then continued his studies at the Akademie Mozarteum in Salzburg. Raminsh's works have been performed by such ensembles as the Vancouver Chamber Choir, the Elmer Iseler Singers, and the Stockholm Chamber Choir. He is currently Principal Second Violin of the Okanagan

Symphony and conductor of the Aura Chamber Choir and Nova Children's Choir in British Columbia.

White Feathers is from the second set of *Songs of the Lights*, and "is set to a translation from the Papago (language) by Frances Densmore (1867-1957), the foremost American authority on the songs and music of American Indian tribes. The text likely describes or suggests the wisps of clouds on the western horizon illuminated by the last rays of the setting sun." [I. Raminsh]

Wind

Bernhard Heiden

This is one of *Two Songs of Spring* dedicated in 1966 to Margaret Hillis, conductor of the Chicago Symphony Chorus. The text, by Samuel Yellen, contrasts the promise of spring with the reality of the cold wind at this time of year. Heiden marks this contrast by the alternating use of quartal-quintal and tertial harmonies.

Aure volanti

Francesca Caccini

Francesca Caccini, the eldest daughter of Giulio Caccini (one of the first composers of Italian opera), was recognized as one of the leading musicians at the Medici court in Florence as a singer, multi-instrumentalist, and composer--to the extent that her salary was second only to that of the Secretary of State! *La Liberazione di Ruggiero dall'isola d'Alcina* was one of the first operas to be based on a modern rather than a classical subject, and was the first Italian opera to be performed outside of Italy. In *Aure volanti* the nymphs of Alcina attempt to persuade the shipwrecked Ruggiero to remain with them by describing the pleasures of their island. [after Carolyn Raney]

Bolyongás

Béla Bartók

A very special thank you to Faculty of Music student Frank Szatmari for suggesting this beautiful song. Gratitude is also extended to Mr. Szatmari and to UWC member Eva Mező for assistance with pronunciation.

On suuri sun rantas autius

Matti Hyökki

This folksong arrangement, with its haunting melody, captures both the peacefulness and melancholy one is likely to encounter along the Finnish lakeshore.

How lonely are your shores and yet I still long for them. I long to hear again the wild duck's lament calling from the lake's rushes in the night. A lonely, lost one who is cold calls out as he swims around and through the rushes as he searches for his mother. Through my tears I have watched your grey waves. It was here, on your shore (as a young one) that I cried my first tears of sorrow. Your image lies deep in my memory and increases my longing for your shores. I want to hear once again the wild duck's lament as I did so many nights long ago. [after M. Edmundson and D. Loomer]

PROGRAMME TEXTS AND TRANSLATIONS

O Holy Fire

O Ignis spiritus pariclati
 O spiraculum sanctitatis et infusio cordium.
 De te rubes fluunt, lapides humorem habent.
 Terra. Aque rivulos.
 O iter fortissimum, quod penetravit omnia
 Tu omnes componis
 Abyssis terrenis qua aqua fluunt in altissimus.
 O Ignis Sanctus.

Bruce Nicol

O fire of the comforting spirit
 O breath of holiness and flooding of the heart
 Through you the clouds steam, the stones have their humour.
 Earth. the waters ripple.
 O most steadfast path, which has penetrated all things,
 You unite all.
 Abyss planes where waters flow in highest places.
 O holy fire!

Dixit Dominus (Psalm 110)

Dixit Dominus Domino meo:
 Sede a dextris meis,
 donec ponam inimicos tuos
 scabellum deum tuorum.
 Virgam virtutis tuae
 emittet Dominus ex Sion;
 dominare in medio
 inimicorum tuorum.

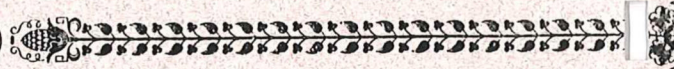
Baldassare Galuppi

I

The Lord says to my lord:
 "Sit at my right hand,
 till I make your enemies
 your footstool."
 The Lord sends forth from Zion
 your mighty scepter.
 rule in the midst
 of your foes!

Tecum principium
 in d[omi]n[u]m virtutis tuae

Your people will offer themselves freely
 to you day by day, and your most



in splendoribus sanctorum;
ex t ante rum
genui te.

Juravit Dominus,
et non poenitebit eum:

Tu es sacerdos in aeternum
secundum ordinem Melchisedech.

Dominus a dextris tuis;
confregit in die irae suae reges.

Judicabit in nationibus,
implebit ruinas;
conquassabit capita in terra multorum.

De torrente in via bibet;
propterea exaltabit caput.

Gloria Patri, et Filio,
et Spiritui Sancto.

Sicut erat in principio,
et nunc et semper,
et in saecula saeculorum.

Amen.

in nov array.

I the v of ti rin
like dew your youth will come to you.

II

The Lord has sworn,
and will not change his mind:

"You are a priest forever
after the order of Melchizedek."

The Lord is at your right hand;
he will shatter kings on the day of his wrath.

III

He will execute his judgment among the nations,
filling them with corpses;
he will shatter the head over the wide earth.

He will drink from the brook by the way;
therefore he will lift up his head.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son,
and to the Holy Spirit.

As it was in the beginning,
is now and ever shall be,
world without end.

Amen.



Aure volanti

Aure volanti, augei canori,
fonti stillanti, grazie e amori,
quinci d'intorno, fate più chiar'il sol,
più lieto il giorno.

Antri gelati, fulgido sole,
erbosi prati, gigli e viole,
quinci d'intorno . . .

Bolyongás

Vad erdőben járok éjszaka,
Ide kerget engem szívem fájdalma,
Vad erdőben járok egyedül,
Rajtam az Isten sem könyörül, nem!
Házam volt, elégett, ezt bánom,
Szöllőm volt, elpusztult, sajnálom,
Lovam volt, ellopták, as is tör, elviték.
Rózsám volt, elviték, ez megöl, meg!
Amióta az én rózsám elveszett,
Szomorúan töltöm az életemet,
Vad erdőben járok egyedül,
Rajtam az Isten sem könyörül, nem!

Francesca Caccini

Wandering breezes, sweet warbling songbirds,
Soft trickling fountains, graces and pleasures
All here surrounding, make the sun brighter,
Make the day much lighter.

Cool frosted caverns, sunlight so glowing,
Green waving meadows, violets and lilies,
All here surrounding . . .

Béla Bartók

Through dark woods I wander aimlessly,
Driven by a fevered sadness cleaving me.
Loneliness pursues me through the night;
Even God forsakes me in my plight. Ah!

My home was ravaged by fire, gutted,
Dead are my vineyards, the grape blighted,
Stolen my horse, I could cry vengeance!

They took my love from me, O I could die!
Stolen is my rosebud, now all life is done.
Empty is the black, black world now she is gone.
Loneliness pursues me through the night;
Even God forsakes me in my plight. Ah!

Dodi li vaani lo Haroe Bashoshanim.

Mizot ola Min Hamidbar Mizot ola.
M'kuteret Mor UJ'vona.

Libavtini Achoti kala.

Uri tsafon Uvoi Teiman.

A Ghaoth Andeas!

"A ghaoth andeas na mbraon mbog glas,
A ní gach faithe féarmhar,
Bheir iasg ar eas is grian i dteas,
Is líon is meas ar ghéagaibh,
Más sfós ar fad mar mbinn féin seal
Is mianach leat-sa séide,
Cuirim Rí na bhFeart dhod chaomhaint ar neart,
'S tuir don úr sin blas mo bhéil-se!"

"From south I come with velvet breeze..."

"My Connacht, famed for wine and play..."

My beloved is mine and I am his, the shepherd
grazing his flock among the lilies.

Who is this who goes up from the wilderness
perfumed with myrrh and frankincense?

You have captivated my heart, my chosen bride.

Awake North Wind and come South Wind.

[from Doreen Rao]

Arr. Errol Gay

(Poet)

"O south wind of the gentle rain,
You banish winter's weather,
Bring salmon to the pool again,
The bees among the heather.
If northward now you mean to blow,
As you rustle soft above me,
God-speed be with you as you go,
With a kiss for those that love me!"

(Wind)

(Poet)



Dodi Li

Nira Chen/D. Rao

In 1985 Doreen Rao presented choral masterclasses at the Jerusalem Music Center and one of the benefits from this visit was the inclusion of the beautiful Hebrew love song, *Dodi Li*, in her Choral Music Experience Library series. The song comes from the *Song of Songs* 2:16, 3:6, 4:9, 4:16.

A Ghaoth Andeas!

arr. Errol Gay

Nothing appears to be known of the author of this song, except that he was a native of Irrul, County Mayo, named Domhnall Meirgeach Mac Con Mara (Freckled Donal Macnamara).

The University Women's Chorus wishes to thank Maureen Nic Dhiarmada, Dept. of Celtic Studies, St. Michael's College, for her assistance with the Irish pronunciation.



TONIGHT'S ARTISTS

The University Women's Chorus began in 1986 under the direction of Michael Coghlan; the present conductor, Ann Cooper Gay, began her leadership in 1988. The overall repertoire of the chorus spans a broad spectrum, from the music of Hildegard von Bingen to that of contemporary composers, as well as commissions from students and professors of composition at the Faculty of Music.

In 1990 and again in 1992 the Women's Chorus won Second Prize in the Equal Voice Category of the national CBC Choral Competition, making them the first University of Toronto choir to receive an award in this prestigious biannual event. The UWC performs regularly with outstanding student soloists and internationally known faculty members. In October 1992 they performed on the Gala Concert for delegates to the OMEA convention in Toronto and in February 1993 they undertook their first tour, to Cornell University.

Ann Cooper Gay, a native of Texas, holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in Music from Austin College (TX). Vocal studies at the University of British Columbia and the University of Toronto led to a Diploma in Operatic Performance (with Distinction) from the University of Toronto and leading roles with the Canadian Opera Company. She also holds a Masters of Music from the University of Toronto. Ms. Cooper Gay is founder of the High Park Girls' Choir of Toronto; founder/former music director of the Children's Choir at the Royal Conservatory of Music; instrumental music teacher at Runnymede Public School; and Assistant to the Director of Choral Programs at the University of Toronto, now in her fifth season as Conductor of the University Women's Chorus.

In 1992-93 Ann Cooper Gay will present a choral/vocal workshop for Choristers Guild (Buffalo, Ny), will conduct Haydn's *Harmoniemesse* for CAMMAC, and direct, for the second year, the Symphonic Strings and Orchestra at Toronto Music Camp. She will make her debut with the Ontario Choral Federation in May, 1993 as conductor of the women's choir in SING... '93 and in July, 1993 return to the Saskatchewan Choral Federation as conductor of both the Children's and Teen Choir Camp.

INSTRUMENTALISTS

Kathy Tremills, piano
Andrea Bray, violin
Karri Quan, violin
Heather Gay, viola
John Marshman, cello
Andrew Downing, bass

Julia Seager, harp
Debbie Bradley, organ
Erin Gay, recorder
Alice Hayward, recorder
Mary Piercey, recorder

UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO WOMEN'S CHORUS PERSONNEL

* Sandra Alderton	Voice, Mus. Ed., 3rd year
Caterina Allegretti	Piano, Mus. Ed., 3rd year
* Lysandra Almeida	Voice, Perf., 4th year
Geni Ambrozaitis	Voice, Mus. Ed., 1st year
Bryanna Beale	Voice, Mus. Ed., 1st year
*@ Deborah Bradley	Organ, Mus. Ed., 2nd year
Barbara Byczko	Piano, Mus. Ed., 3rd year
Adrienne Chan	Arts & Science (piano), 1st year
Jasmine Chen	Piano, Mus. Ed., 2nd year
Jennifer Clucas	Voice, Mus. Ed., 3rd year
# Marta DeLuca	Voice, Perf., 3rd year
Luiiza Fernandez	Piano, Mus. Ed., 3rd year
#* Rebecca Garrison	Voice, Perf., 2nd year
Alice Hayward	Voice, Mus. Ed., 4th year
Lisa Helferty	Voice, Mus. Ed., 4th year
# Helena Janik	Voice, Perf., 3rd year
Kara Johnston	Voice, Perf., 1st year
+* Simone Jubas	Voice, Mus. Ed., 4th year
Anita Kwok	Piano, Mus. Ed., 4th year
Kristi Laird	Piano, Mus. Ed., 4th year
Janice Lam	Piano, Mus. Ed., 3rd year
*Mei Lee	Voice, Perf., 3rd year
Lina Libak	Piano, Mus. Ed., 3rd year
Heesook Lim	Piano, Mus. Ed., 4th year
*Nicole Lobo	Voice, Mus. Ed., 2nd year
Eva Mezö	Voice, Perf., 1st year
Gwen Norton	Piano, Mus. Ed., 1st year
Mary Piercey	Piano, Mus. Ed., 2nd year
#*Ayelet Porzecanski	Voice, Perf., 2nd year
n Jessica Severin	Voice, Mus. Ed., 1st year
Pina Sgro	Piano, Mus. Ed., 3rd year
*Janet Stachow	Piano, Mus. Ed., 2nd year
Marina Taneva	Piano, Perf., 1st year
Wern Ning Tang	Piano, Mus. Ed., 4th year
Anna Tiberio	Piano, Mus. Ed., 1st year
*Kathy Tremills	Piano, Perf., 3rd year
Holly Verhaegen	Voice, Perf., 2nd year
#*Jane Warren	Voice, Perf., 3rd year
#*Rebecca Whelan	Voice, Perf., 4th year
#*Anne Whyte	Voice, Mus. Ed., 2nd year
Eppie Wong	Voice, Perf., 2nd year
Karri Yano	Organ, Mus. Ed., 2nd year
+ Manager/Librarian	• Accompanists
# Soloists	* Dodeca Donne
n Tour Manager	@ Rehearsal Assistant

